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Board of County Commissioners Agenda Request 21

Date of Meeting: May 10, 2005**Date Submitted:** May 4, 2005

To: Honorable Chairman and Members of the Board
From: Parwez Alam, County Administrator
Gary W. Johnson, Director, Growth and Environmental Management
Subject: Ratification of Board Actions Taken in Consideration of Growth and Environmental Management Permit Process and Development Initiative April 26, 2005 Workshop

Statement of Issue:

This item requests Board ratification of actions taken at the April 26, 2005 Workshop on Growth and Environmental Management Permit Process and Development Initiatives. This item also requests Board approval of the Enabling Resolution for the Growth and Environmental Management (GEM) Permit Process Improvement Citizen Focus Group (Attachment # 1), and associated Advisory Committee Request Form (Attachment # 2).

Background:

On April 26, 2005, the Board conducted a workshop on Growth and Environmental Management Permit Process and Development Initiatives. This workshop item was prepared in response to the Board's request, at the June 8, 2004 Budget Issue Discussion Meeting, that staff review ways to streamline the permitting process

GEM staff presented a comprehensive workshop package that itemized proposed ways to streamline the permitting process. After some deliberation the Board voted to establish a Citizen Focus Group (CFG), representing the community, to review the items in the GEM Permit Process and Development Initiative workshop package, and provide input to GEM staff concerning streamlining and improving the permit process.

Analysis:

In accordance with Board direction, each Board member is to appoint one member to the focus group. The focus group is to review the workshop package and provide input to GEM staff within 90 days. Appointments to the focus group will be done at the May 10, 2005 meeting under the Expirations, Vacancies, and Appointments agenda item. A list of citizens interested in serving on the focus group will be provided to the Board.

Following the timeline, specified by the Board at the April 26, 2005 workshop, the CFG is required to complete the review of the proposals in the workshop package and identify any other areas they felt could possibly be streamlined by August 10, 2005. Staff estimates that any new panel that is convened to review the items in the workshop package would require a minimum of three educational meetings to become acquainted with the GEM site plan and permitting process. Given the length of time necessary

to educate a new committee on GEM processes, and the Board's current schedule, it is estimated that the earliest another workshop could be held would be in November 2005. As a result of the referenced time constraints, staff recommends 180 days to complete the citizen review process.

To expedite the review of the workshop package, the Board could consider utilizing the GEM Citizen's User Group. The GEM Citizen's User Group has been utilized in the past to review GEM processes and proposed code changes, and they are familiar with the GEM site plan and permitting process. Each Board member currently appoints two members to this group as shown in Attachment # 3. This will eliminate the need to have the educational meetings necessary if the Board were to appoint a new CFG. The GEM Permit Process and Development Initiative workshop package could be reviewed by the GEM Citizen's User Group within the Board's directed 90 days, and allow the next workshop on the GEM Permitting Process and Development Initiatives to be scheduled for September 20, 2005 from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.

Options:

1. Ratify actions taken at the April 26, 2005 workshop on Growth and Environmental Management Permitting Process and Development Initiatives.
2. Approve the Enabling Resolution and Advisory Committee Request Form establishing the Growth and Environmental Management Permit Process Improvement Citizen Focus Group, and schedule a workshop on review of the permit process and development initiatives on November 22, 2005 from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
3. Authorize the Growth and Environmental Management Citizen's User Group to act as the Growth and Environmental Management Permit Process Improvement Citizen Focus Group to expedite the review of the permit process and development initiatives, and schedule a workshop for September 20, 2005 from 12:00 – 3:00 p.m.
4. Board Direction

Recommendation:

Board Direction

Attachments:

1. Enabling Resolution for the Growth and Environmental Management Permit Process Improvement Citizen Focus Group.
2. Advisory Committee Request Form
3. GEM Citizen's User Group members

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